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THE CAUSE OF HOG CHOLERA; How it is Created on the Farm,

—AND—

HOW TO PREVENT IT

IN A NATURAL WAY

WITHOUT MEDICINE AND WITHOUT EXPENSE.

—BY—
WILLIAM JAMES HUNTER.

The Information You Have Been Looking for for Years, You will Find Between the Covers of This Book.

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PREFACE.

I ask you to please read the book from the beginning, clear away some of those can't-be-dones from your mind, and allow your brains to be useful to you. Allow them to think about real things and not blockade them with unreal things. Do not judge the book by its construction, but by the facts it states and teaches. Remember the author is a farmer, and the book is written from experience, observation and records of five years; also it is written in this form to break down all the superstition in regard to the subject that is in sight. Now if you are a hog raiser I ask you to read the book through, and do your criticising afterwards. Do not read part of the book and go to forming conclusions. But I ask you to read it slowly and to the end, and then see if it has not to you the truth told.

Now the Farmers.

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CHEROKEE TIMES, PUBLISHERS,
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THE CAUSE OF HOG CHOLERA,

How Created and How Prevented.

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They have always been able to find and rectifiy their mistakes, and when the trouble has been understood it has been found that the Preventative has stood in the way of a better understanding of their business. And not with medicine. Medicine is for accident. You would give medicine to your horse after he got in the corn crib and ate too much corn, to try and save him. But it would be a poor thing to give it as a preventative. Better shut the crib door and prevent the trouble by carefulness. Think three weeks and see if you can think of a thing that medicine will prevent that could not have been prevented with care in a more practical way. The preventive in this case is what we want on the farm. The cures are of secondary importance. We can afford to lose our cures if we can become better at preventing. We do not want to run hospitals but farms. Now the combinations that it takes to produce hog cholera strong enough to kill we would have found before. If that man that first yelled that the cholera comes in the air, could have been caught and tied up somewhere out of our hearing. But as it was he got us to think it was as a ghost or a mist comes from the air, coming through the country as a spirit, from no one knew where; had no beginning, nor no end; that we were blameless and helpless; seem to like to come around about the time we had been feeding new corn awhile. So we tried to head him off there. We thought we would soak our old

corn and get rid of some hogs before that time. But it made no difference. He would not be fooled. Well he got to be a bad thing; so bad that I have seen good farmers box up their hogs in a tight pen and cover it over. But still he would get in.

I have have seen them feed medicine worth four dollars a gallon to keep him or her, whatnot ghost or devil, spook or worms, lung fever, stomach trouble; whatever he would bring along. And he always brought them all. He would feed it to keep it away. And this fellow all the time a telling it comes in the air. So you see we have to find this strange thing and give it a name. So we call it hog cholera. But some are not satisfied they say. There is a lot of them. None of us believe in witch craft; there are none of us believe in spooks. We believe we are sane; we believe the air is pure unless something has made it impure. We believe that that something could be found that has made it impure, because we believe in a beginning and end. We believe, then, nothing is traveling about in the air unless it started somewhere. We believe the bird started from its nest, we believe the smoke that comes from the chimney starts from a cause below; we believe the man got his fever-ague from the swamp that he lives by, that has filled the air with Poisons that act upon his system in that way. We believe that this poison cannot injure only within a limited distance. We believe we can cause the smoke to come from the chimney. We gather the wood, we put it in the stove, we strike the match, and by natural causes we have the smoke from the chimney.

Now when we feed new corn to our hogs IS IT POISONOUS? Or does it act as the match and merely let off the Poisons? Now if it acts merely as an agent to cast out devils or Poisons, and not as a Poison itself, what will you think? I believe we

will have to come back to our old belief that we used to have, that the new corn has something to do with this hog cholera. And if new corn should be found to cast out devils or POISONS instead of casting them in, we will have to investigate what it cast them out of. Well now we will say the new corn is pure and sweet and good. It merely casts out devils and poisons when fed to our bunch of hogs. So these devils and poisons must be in our bunch of hogs. Well, now, do not get scared yet. It must be pried into no matter what it is. Well, with the track we have of him now we have him tracked to our bunch of hogs. Well, now we will experiment a little. We will send the hired man to gather a load of new corn, and haul it up side of the hog pen. Now we will run those nice, young hogs in this pen after we have cleaned it out well, and we will see if we can cast out some POISONOUS devils. Now we have them, now go ahead with your new corn. Now we have been feeding new corn here to these hogs a long time and we don't see any signs of these devils or poisons coming out. Maybe there are no poisons or devils in nice young hogs; so let us run in that old sow and see if there are any in her. Will we try these others any longer? Yes, we will run the old sow right in with them. Well, do you think that if there is any devils or poisons in her they will go into the rest when she gets some of our new corn? We will see. We know the others have none now, because we have tried them. Now let us wait a few days and see what turns up. What, this quick? Why, its only been a few days since we put her in. Well, I tell you the POISONOUS devils are coming out of her. How do you know? Because they are entering those others, and I tell you they are raising hob with those others. Well, let us lay low and see what they will do. There seems to have too many of them got got into that one there. He is trying to

vomit them out. See, they have killed this one. It must be they are not used to poisonous devils going down their noses, for you see they put their noses close to her and they likely run down them. Well, let us feed that shoat there some of our cast out; go and get a few ears of it. Does he eat it? No, he won't touch it. Well, we cannot get any of those devils or poisons out of him if he will not eat the cast out, and he has got too much of them. Well, maybe when they all get out of the old sow, they will stop crowding into the shoats so. I wish we had not started to cast them out in with these shoats, and took her off in another pen by herself so the poisonous devils could not have gone down those shoats noses so. Let us take her out so they cannot get any more of them, for I think they have enough of them now. The old sow looks better now, anyway, since she got those poisons out of her. We will keep on feeding her the cast out and she will soon be fat. Do you think the poisons or devils will come into her again? No, not as long as we give her plenty of cast out, and keep her here alone, and not put another one in with her that has devils or poisons.

Well now, by representing new corn to be a cast out, instead of a cast in of poisonous devils, we have tracked it to that old sow. We have found out that there was no poisonous devils in the nice young hogs, but that the old sow was full of them; and that when we put her with them and feed her the cast out, the poisonous devils left her and entered the shoats by the nose, and they quit eating the cast out and died But the old sow kept eating the cast out and lived. Now we must learn and investigate something about this old sow. Do you know her? Just think if you are not very well acquainted with her; if you are not you must get so; you will learn to know her and learn how to cast out the poisonous devils right,

after I have taught you to do this. But now, do not think we are trying to perform a miracle, we are merely tracking these devils and poisons with new corn, and our belief that new corn has something to do with them. Now don't say it has not, just yet, just because these poisonous devils come around at other times. For we may find some other things that cast out poisonous devils. But let us follow this track we have. Now we want to find out something of this cast out. Well, will pure, good tender new corn cast out poisonous devils out of an old sow that has been found to have devils or poisons in her? We expect it to or we would not have expected her to thrive and get fat. We know she must have the poisonous devils thrown out of her or she will not thrive. Does new corn make a hog start to thrive quick? Yes, well then it must be one of the best things we have to cast out poisonous devils out of a hog. Now this is good news to us, we don't have to pay four dollars a gallon for it, we can raise this ourselves. Now we can say we have the new corn, the match that started the fire, and that we used it as we used the match and that we put her in among these shoats, as we put the wood in the stove. But we know how we gathered the wood. But we must find out how the sow gathered the poisonous devils. Well, in order to do that we must look back and find her when she looked something as she does now, when there was no poisonous devils in her. You see we can see how she ought to look now, since we drove the poisonous devils out of her. Well, she looked this way, last spring, when she farrowed. For awhile she kept looking like this, but as her pigs grew, she began to look different; she got so she did not care for the cast out because it got dry and hard for her to eat. Now she ought to have eaten the cast out, if she expected to keep the poisonous devils out of her; maybe the cast out had

lost its virtue. Well she kept changing, so she must have kept getting fuller of the poisonous devils. It was hot and dry and her hide got dry and her hair looked dead, and she cared less for the old dry cast out. The pores of her hide were mostly closed; her pigs seemed to take her strength, and you see how she looked when we put her in with those nice young hogs we used to have. Yes? Well, if that is the way they look when they have poisonous devils that will be better than to think they are in the nice young hogs. She, the old sow, ate the new cast out and it had its full virtue, and it cast out the poisonous devils that had got into her through the long summer. It cast them out into the others. They entered their nostrils and filled their systems full of poisonous devils. If it had not entered their noses and went down so fast the new cast out would have driven them away. But, as it was, they would sleep with their noses stuck up against her and it gave the cast out no chance, for a lot of them would not eat it. But after we took the sow to another pen and separated all the others, those that would eat the cast out became pure from poisonous devils, so we see we have allowed our hogs to poison themselves to death; we have been allowing one or more hogs to poison the herd. We know the nature of new corn; we can find other things that act as a cast out of poisonous devils. Now, what I tell you is this. Any hog that does not thrive for a long while, that when it begins to thrive is poisonous to those that are with it; that new corn is not poisonous, but merely casts off the poisons from the hog that has become poisonous. But it is not careful where it casts them to, so if you are a mind to allow them to be cast among your others, the poison will kill them. Rain, what does that do? It helps some men raise a few hogs. It happens to be a wet time when these poisons are let off.

Now as I tell this you have a part. Your part is to understand, and be sure you do understand. I act as the agent to tell this and the truth, the cast out; you as the agent to receive and be righted by understanding; the outcome the good you will receive therefrom. And the cholera has no place. There is no use of a man telling you your house is on fire if you won't listen to him. You would not know the world is round unless you have studied about it; so you do not know you have a right to kick me till you have studied this. I have worked hard to be able to give you this information. But it is like a spelling book; it demands something of you; you must study it. If you have been expecting someone to discover a thing that has only one cause, as a poisonous weed or stone or something in that like, that only had to be removed from your pen, you see you would be wrong, because the cause would be an unnatural one, and found long ago. An unnatural cause in our business is easier found than a natural one. Hog cholera, or what ever you call it, is caused from a natural cause, caused a natural cause, caused by unnatural causes that can be stopped in a natural way, if you begin at the beginning and not at the end.

I have written this in this form that it may be understood more aptly from a farmer's standpoint, that he will see that I do not twist the cholera around to fit the cause; that I am able to show him his mistake when he has produced the cholera in his herd. Now here is some things we do. I will do a little hog raising to show you how easy we raise the cholera as well as we do the hog. Twelve brood sows May 1st. It does not matter what year if you do it this way unless providence helps you out. June 1st. I am pleased. My hogs did all right through May; I am looking forward to a prosperous year with my hogs. Now let me say a word; we are at the

beginning of cholera, the end will come in the Fall. July 1st. My pigs are doing very well; the old sows are running down some; I have been feeding them plenty of corn. Aug. 1st. My pigs have done very well through July; I believe I will wean them. The old sows are not doing anything; they don't care for the old corn. I have been giving my pigs milk and stuff on the outside of the pen so they are doing quite well. Sept. 1st. Through August my old sows have not done anything, but the pigs are growing. The old hogs won't eat much of the corn; it is so dry and hard they do not care for it. Oct. 1st. Through September my pigs have been doing fine, and they are just growing like weeds. I am rolling new corn to them now. I'll wake those old sows up now. Ten of them, the best ones, are doing all right now; I have them waked up now. But my pigs seem to be getting wormy. Oct. 15th. My hogs are doing well, all but those two old sows, and I think they are starting up now; but my pigs are wormy and they cough. Oct. 18th. My shoats are dying. Oct. 24th. So are the old hogs, the ones that were doing the best. One of those two sows now has started to thrive; the good ones are sick. Nov. 5th. For a while they showed signs of getting better, but now they are dying again. The other one of those two sows has begun to thrive. Nov. 15th. They have taken a change for the better.

What is it that has destroyed my hogs, so who is to blame? What do they say? Some say I feed too much new corn, some say it comes in the air, some say it's worms, some say it's fever, some say it's their lungs, some say it's their stomach, some say it's the devils in them. But what caused him to be in them, or these other things to happen to them. They act like this. When they begin to get sick they cough, vomit or scour, sometimes both sometimes costive. It seems

to hurt them to breathe. If they have a wound on them it won't heal. Those that are thriving and eating lots die quick. Those that eat only a little linger longest. Some snuffle and wheeze, their eyes water, they want water bad, they seem to live longer on some water and a little feed. I see it kills them quickly when it takes one that has been eating lots. They seem cold and want to lie in the nest and shiver.

I came to think my hogs were dying of poison. I thought they breathed the poison into their lungs causing them to wheeze; sometimes it lodged in their nostrils causing them to snuffle; till they got a large quantity, and when they swallow it it kills them, unless they vomit it up, which they do sometimes. But if it don't kill they have a fit and vomit it up. Some breathe it into a full stomach getting so much before they can relieve themselves of any of it that it kills them quickly; others nature aids by scouring and vomiting, and they put up a fight with the poison, till their lungs give out and they become a wreck. But where the poison is is the mystery. My yard is clean; I have not given them anything but corn and water; it has not rained for a while. I will watch what they breathe. I see this one I am looking at has his nose stuck up against that old sow, one of those two that I have told you about, the one of those two that has started to thrive. Can he suck with his nose anything from her? There is no mistake she must be all right, because you can see she has begun to thrive. Well, let's look back and see what condition she has been in for a long time. We find she has not thrived for a long time. She has not cast off her hair or slicked off since she had her pigs. She is not skin poor, but her hide is dry, hair dead and the pores in her hide have been mostly closed. But now she has started to get rid of these and her pores are opening, and we get no rain in the yard. My pigs sleep with

their noses against her. Is tnis a fault? My pigs have begun to die again. I wonder if the other one of those two is giving them a fresh dose. Both of these sows I have left. Is it this that has been killing my shoats every fall regular as clock work for four falls out of five? Yes, it is just my way to feed my hogs and shoats together.

Now you must understand that conditions makes a differerence. Rain in the right time might save your hogs from having the cholera. Now the condition for the sow to be in is for her not to thrive for a long time. Hot weather and dry helps you to get her in this condition, with her pigs suckling. She does not need to be skin poor. You need not be afraid of losing this sow; you may lose every hog you have but you won't lose her if you feed her. But she will not not do her work killing your shoats till you change her condition by making her thrive. This will be the second condition. Now for the third condition. Have her where this offal that she will cast off will be dumped into the others lungs and systems. Then you will have cholera among them. Then you will take your bottles and try to erase in a few days the effect of a thing that you have been three or four months bringing about. If the old sow casts off her coat in hot weather when they don't nest together, it may rain and help you out and not do the rest any more harm than give them a cough. If she starts slowly in the fall you will have a coughing, wormy case. But if you are feeding the old sow something that is just waking her right up, so to speak, why then she will kill them so fast that they will not have to pass through this coughing, wormy period, and if you are a worm doctor you will be out of a job. When your shoats are getting over it you will see them nest with their noses in the air. The farmer has been fooled so much that it is hard to make him believe there

is any help for this hog cholera. He thinks it comes in the air. You see how it gets into their air or breath. He thinks it's new corn. You see how new corn casts it into their air and breath. He thinks it's their lungs. You see what's the matter with their lungs. This fellow thinks it's their stomach. You ought to see how their stomach is troubled. Or he thinks it is bred into them. You see where it was created. Some think it's the devil in them. They are the nearer right, only they mean Satan and I mean devils, impurities and poisonous matters. They think he comes from the air. I say they are accummulated in the old sow in the summer for want of something that will act upon her system, as new corn or any other good feed.

Hog cholera in August. You have some nice hogs fattening in the summer. They are healthy and all right. You buy a few old sows because you see a speck in them. Maybe you have some yourself in another lot. You put them in with your nice hogs to cast off their offal into the other's lungs. The man you bought them of, why his hogs did not have the cholera. You put them with yours; yours die. The old sows slick off; yours, you say, are to blame. See, you say, those that I bought are well and thriving and mine died. Now, let's try another one. We'll say you have some July or August pigs. These sows you cannot sell with your spring brood sows. Will say you missed the fall cholera; would have been all right if it had not been for these; late fall you wean their pigs; you turn these pets out, after they are dry, with the rest; they begin to thrive; you have what's called cholera in the early winter; cholera in the spring is rarer; so to are these old sows. But some men try to raise winter pigs. This man's shoats the hair has all at once started to come off; what's the matter; he is feeding a lot of old hogs in their pen; the old

hogs were not in very bad condition; he had not let them run down much; but when they started to thrive they poisoned the shoats some; it gave them a light scald of cholera; knocked them off their feed, causing them to cough and be wormy. Now when you have a pen of fine hogs, quit looking in the air for the devils, but keep your head. Nail a little tag on your gate like unto this: "No hog goes in here till I know he has been thriving some time," to put you in mind of what I have told you.

Now do not fret about a stray hog; if he comes they will fight him. But watch yourself; you are the absent minded man to watch; see that some day you don't run that old sow that you have in that other lot in there. I see she has raised you six or eight fine pigs, but she has not done much for a long time; and she is apt to raise you something else when you make the conditions right. But you say, "Hunter, I think if I put her in here with these hogs she will slick off and get fat, and make a good hog," so do I, "and I'd sell her with the rest and get my money out of her." Oh, no you would not. Why? Because the rest would have the cholera. "You seem to think, Hunter, me opening that gate and running that sow in here makes lots of difference. Now you say, Hunter, those old sows you have been telling me about have the cholera." I say they have not, but the stuff to make the cholera out of. "If they have why don't they die?" Their lungs are all right; they are all right as it will prove; when you feed them something easily digested and take their pigs away they will get fat. You know this as well as I do. You say their pigs have given them a hard pull, and that's all that is the matter with them. This man will say he has from ten to twenty brood sows; they have with them quite a lot of pigs; they all run in the pasture together through the summer; he

feeds them dry corn, which they don't care much for; comes fall he feeds them new corn which they like; his sows have not done anything all summer and he knows it; he feeds them all together; tell him his shoats will begin to die as soon as the new corn gives the old sows strength and vigor enough to cast off the impurities that they have retained through the summer; tell him that opening a gate and knowing what to do would do him more good than all the worm medicine he could lug home. We have the most cholera and most old sows after we get the great nourishing food of new corn; then is also when farmers start to prepare the most old sows for market. Some start to feed it earlier than others consequently starts them up earlier; others are afraid of it for they have heard so much about it, and merely prolongs their troubles. There is no cholera in the new corn, but the corn comes on in plenty, the right kind of a ration for to make their old sows cast off their impurities. By studying this you will see why new corn was thought to cause the cholera; same way about soaked corn. I have seen men, when their sows had run down, think they would start them up so they would be able to sell them before hog cholera time, on soaked corn; they would have it just the same; you see it was not the corn's fault. He had allowed some of them to get too poisonous, and when they began to thrive the very thing that they would do would be to throw off those poisons out of their systems. His good ones would begin to die, the very ones he would swear were well, the poor ones are living. He would swear it was not their fault; says his soaked corn is no good, it's like new corn. His neighbor feeds the same; his hogs had been kept up well, they live and he sells them.

I have put lots of stress on old sows, but you will see they are the most likely to get in that condition. You see

when they are not properly fed, and suckling pigs, their strength is taken in that way. I tell you that you cannot raise hogs successfully and only one pen to put everything into, old and young; those that are thriving and those that are not thriving; that a crop of hogs are as easy to injure as a crop of corn; that the best thing is a feed of ground grains with a llttle oilmeal as a preventative, for it will prevent if given at the right time, or it will bring it on if given at the wrong time; that such preventatives as this, used while a sow is suckling her pigs, and a careful lookout for such tricks as these that I will tell you of, will prevent entirely your trouble. When you make any changes in your barrows take them away from the others into another pen, they need your attention now. Rain is a great thing for them now; not because they can get mud, but because it rinses them, refreshes their hide, helps them cast off and soaks away the poisonous matters that the shock to their nature caused. Now those that start to do poorly remove from this yard and hold away every thing till they have been thriving some time, then you can put thriving ones together; you see it's the interval that causes the trouble, lack of steadiness. You may take the best of care of all your hogs and neglect one old sow that you expect to raise you a wagon load of pigs, and when the time comes she will pay you dearly for it. When new corn comes she will take care of herself, and if only the rain will hold off and be dry for a while she will wreak vengeance on you; and she will be sly with you; she will thrive and get fat and you will not lay any blame on her. But if you had known it was she that killed those nice hogs she would have had your ax on her skull, but now she will get the care; she is one of the ones that have stayed by you; you brag about her; you have a hog the cholera never tackled; never was sick you say. Do you

say nature is not kind of sly? Anyway that old sow is. She has beaten me lots of times and has she beaten you?

Now how you can tell your neighbor his trouble when his hogs are sick. Go over to his hog pen, nine chances to one you will see his old sow his pet, but if she is not there do not get fooled; he may have hauled her off to market a day or two ago. Find out about that. Oh, he will say, they were all doing fine, but I thought I'd sell them before they got it. Now if you had seen those that he hauled off, among them you would have found the one that left her mark behind her. And now when you want to find his cause for getting the cholera, be sure you get the facts that he tells you right; that he does not omit the very thing you want to know. A good many men will not have it any other way than their hogs, every one of them, were in a very thriving condition. Now if you are stuck, so to speak, can't see his trouble, find out all about his hogs, think about it a few days, look over this little book and you will be able to tell him easily where he made his mistake. Now a man, to be a successful hog raiser, has got to become master of this subject, the way they sleep breathing off one another. Such a lot of breathing in a small spot makes it absolutely necessary for the hog raiser to be skilled in keeping them from breathing their own poisons.

Now here is the way one man got at me. Says he 'tell me, Hunter, how my hogs got the cholera?" I asked him how many he had lost. Says he "I lost one." I asked him how many he had. "I only had one" says he, "shut up in a pen by herself." I told him she did not have the cholera. "Well, what did she have" says he. I told him she died quick, was not sick very long, you were feeding her slops from the house. "Yes" says he, "that was mostly all she got." Likely you were cleaning out some old meat barrel that had brine

in it, or some of the family threw a lot of salty stuff in her slop pail, and it got mixed with something she liked and she ate it all. She ate more salt than you could have got her to eat any other way and it killed her. Next time I saw him he knew how his hog came to die; he looked into the cause a little. Before he was blinded because he thought he was blameless. Salt will not hurt them if it is fed to them right, or even mixed in their feed by a careful man, but such men, you will find, know what they are about; they will not ask a green hand to mix up salt and feed for them to give to their hogs. Now, remember it is the way you give the salt. Swill from town I would not want. I would not want to be testing it for salt all the time, and I would not feed it till I did test it. An over-dose of salt will bring on the cholera; this way you will make them all sick, more or less. There will be an interval before you get any of them thriving again, and this is a thing you don't want; you don't want any stops and starts; the stop is a bad thing and the start may be the cholera. Now you get the first one started; he casts out his impurities into the others lungs; the others are off their feed and his impurities are not so bad because he has not got much of them; therefore the others stand it, though it holds them back. Now you get them all started but a few; the ones you got started first are doing fine, eating a large ration. You are feeding heavily now so as to get the others started; they start to thrive; they have been in this condition a long time now. Now the cast off impurities from these few give the others the cholera; the impurities from these few are more poisonous; it is thrown into the lungs and stomach of hogs that are eating heavy; they cannot get it out of their stomach fast enough so they get so much in their stomach at once that it kills them; that is why your good ones die so fast. But you see they would not have

the cholera for some time after they had got the dose of salt: so you see he would forget about the salt, and not lay the blame where it belongs. Now look out for this salting; if you want to salt them, salt them right. Throw it in the pen by itself and not mix it with something that they will eat too much.

Now your hog house, their nest where they sleep, needs to be cleaned out with water when there is a lot of dry dust in it, once in a while; that dust becomes impure. Don't throw a little lime in it and allow them to breathe the dust, lime and all, for it may throw them off their feed, and they will not do so well anyway. When it becomes impure enough it will cause you to want and need a stock food for them, which, after you have waited a while before you use, will bring on the condition that will cause you to bury them. Anything that stands in the way to keep them all, or even one, from thriving needs your attention; have no interval and they can't have cholera. Now this man says, "I have a remedy that will knock the effects of that interval into eternity." So you see you will eternally be the loser if you depend upon his remedy. Now, don't let him fool you. If you are a farmer you know that nothing but carefulness and foresight on your part will do you any good. We all know we can't neglect our corn till the Fourth of July and then be surprised that it fires. He needs to understand his crop of corn as he plants it; all his mistakes he will find in the fall if he has a poor crop; unless he can see easily the cause he can lay the blame on himself; there is no ghost about it.

Now begin at the end I have told you to, the front end, and you can farm this trouble away and not have to carry a bottle of hog medicine in each pocket; tackle it at the wrong end, the last end, you will fool your time and money away.

and maybe find yourself trying to keep the maggots from coming onto the carcass. Now, in regard to feeding too much corn, you know some farmers think this causes the trouble, they will tell you it is too heavy a feed. Here is the way they feed it when they get the cholera. They begin to feed it when it is new and tender and their hogs will eat it well and do well, and they feed it till it gets so hard and dry they will hardly eat any of it, and do nothing. Then they begin with the new again. Do you call that steadiness? Right when his old sows need tender strength given, feed the worst. They don't get it; they have the dry end of this circle then. Here is what he says then: "I'll not feed the new corn till it's dry and hard." Here is what I say: The new corn will make them thrive and when it becomes old and dry it should be ground and mixed with other feeds for sows that are raising pigs. There are times in the summer that it is very hot; your hogs almost wilt; you give them at night some dry corn; they lay and pant the next day. Now if you don't want an interval give those sows something else besides old, dry corn; something that will keep up their strength; that is easily digested. Dishwater will not do it, sour corn is not it either. Don't think because you give your hogs all the corn they can eat and water, that that is all there is to do.

Now you have a bunch of nice shoats, will say thirty of them, in a lot by themselves, and some old hogs in another lot, fattening for market. You hear of the hog cholera, so you sell the old hogs, knock down your fence and allow your shoats to sleep where those old hogs have nested. You like enough shut them up in this pen; it is dry and hot and this nest is very impure. The dust that the nest is made of is mixed with the impurities that came from those old hogs; the dust in the nest is two or three inches deep all over the nest.

make maybe two wagon loads of dirt. This dust is mixed well with the impurities that came from those old hogs that have nested here for a long time; it has been dry a long time. Now you throw a little acid around, an ounce in this lot of dust; a good rain would purify this nest out for you, and do you a good job. But that little bit of acid did you no good. Now you have stopped your shoats from thriving, and your shoats are getting light doses of hog cholera; but until you give them a dose that will kill them, you will not believe it. But we will say it stays hot and dry for some time, and you are feeding old dry corn and water to these pigs you have in this pen. They don't seem to do anything, you say. Now after a long time, after you have become satisfied that they should have something else with that old dry corn, you say, "I will make them a slop and get some hog cholera preventative." In time you feed this slop and preventative. The best of the shoats start to thrive, say twenty of the thirty start to thrive the first week. You are rolling this slop and preventative right to them now, so as to get the other ten started. You have been feeding this slop a week now. Now you lean your stomach against the fence and look over at them, this morning. Do you see that one there? He is one of the first ones that you got started. Do you see him all at once stop eating and walk off as if he did not care to eat? See him stand over there; after awhile he comes back and eats as if he was very hungry. There go some more doing the same thing. Count and see how many there are that are not thriving now, of those ten. Eight, you say? Next morning. More of them have those walking spells, you say? You say they are bothered with worms and you say you gave them some turpentine; you say you saw them walk off and vomit, and after awhile come back and go to eating again. Mark

those eight, and count and see how many there are that are not thriving. Can't find only six? Well, mark the six. Morning after, did not care whether they got out of the nest or not. You say one came out and started to eat, and fell over and had a fit. You say when you kicked them out of the nest that they acted as if they had slept in a room where the gas had been blown out. You think they feel better now, since they have been out awhile; you say you're going to move them into another yard. Are you afraid there is any gas escaping in this yard? Count and look at those six that are marked. Do they seem to be doing anything? Yes, they seem to be doing better than any of them, seem to feel better, and getting to eat better than the rest. Next morning. I see you have moved them? Yes, but it did not do any good, they are dying now. How are those six? There is nothing wrong with them; they seem to be thriving, starting up a little. They will not die, you always lose the good ones, you say. After awhile. You say they have let up dying; that you lost fifteen; and five that had it are going to get well; that ten of them did not seem to have it and are doing well now. How are those six? They are some of the ten that are doing well now. Mark those five now that you are sure will get well. After awhile. You say they have begun to die again. What ones? Why the good ones, the ones I marked first. You say they were doing fine and got so they were eating well, and you thought they would not have it; and now they have begun to die. You were feeding them heavy, so as to start up those five. Yes, I thought they were over it and I wanted to get those five started. Well, did you? Yes! Well, watch the five now. See how they sleep. You say they sleep with their noses stuck up in the air, and even lean against and partly stand up in the nest, but what they

will have their noses up. After awhile. How are they now? All dead but those five, that I told you would get well. Are you sure all those five will get well? Yes, because they have all started to do well You have not any more you want to put in with them and try to cure? No, the rest are all dead. Well it would not matter; those five have been through the fire; it will be a long time before they get to eating heavy again, and nature seems to have taught them a lesson. They know the smell of the stuff that made them sick and for a long time they will keep their noses in the air more, till the poisons work off of the bunch into the air, instead of into their lungs and stomach.

Now here is a farmer that has got in a bottle a sure pop cure for all this bad management. He must have miracles bottled up in his bottle. You will find he is one of those fellows that doctors by the bunch; he don't know, if he should cure one, when it started to get well that it would poison its mate; he merely saves the sick one so it can kill the well one; he doctors by the bunch; he is more afraid of the one that is dead, or about dead, the one that can't cast off his impurities, than he is the one that is getting well and is casting its impurities into the others' stomach and lungs through their noses. This is the way the farmer doctors. Now here is what you will find around a farmer that is troubled with the hog cholera very often: A lot of railsplitting brood sows with a lot of pigs suckling them. True he gives them plenty of old, dry corn, but that will not keep their strength and system up in hot weather; they are in this shape all through the hot part of the summer; he is not afraid of losing them by using them this way; he knows he can get them in better condition when new corn comes on. He has not time to have the corn ground till after a while, then he will get them something they will like.

His mind is on the pigs; he is pushing them all summer on his cows' milk. So the old sows are neglected; they lose strength; the pigs nearly eat them up; their hide becomes dry and hair dead; they get in a bad condition and dry up so they don't give any milk. After a while one will get out and get in the potato patch and corn field and get some green corn, and keep getting out for about a week or ten days till he gets the fence fixed so it will hold her. Green corn makes her thrive even if she did steal it; he has her in with the pigs; they sleep with her which means sure death to them. Now, those impurities which come from her old hide go hard with their lungs and stomach. But the green corn did not hurt her, and you or I never saw it hurt an old sow; she likes it and she had been in need of it, or something else like it for a long time. This is the easy way to get cholera among your hogs, though some men keep all their hogs in good shape, and some hog will get hurt by accident and not thrive for a long while, and they will allow it to run with the others till it does go to thriving; then their trouble. But you will find they don't have it always. But I thing after a sow has had the strain upon their system, of raising a litter of pigs through hot weather, they should be kept away from the pigs after the pigs are weaned.

Now how winter helps you out. You have thirty shoats; you put in an old sow or two, that are loaded just right; they start to thrive; now if it is cold, every shoat that lays with his nose against them over night is not apt to get well; being cold, they will not last long. The whole thirty can not all breathe off them at once, so they will kill as many as breathe off them each night. Of course these will linger some, but not long, and they will never cast it out, or their impurities into the others. So when the old sows have thrown the worst of it

out of their systems into the air and noses of those that are dead or going to die; then the shoats will quit dying; they will not get poisoned by any of the sick ones getting well, so two or three old sows among them in cold weather will not kill so many, or be the cause of killing so many when it is cold as they will in warm weather. The poison only comes from the old sows, say in cold weather, or the hog that has been in a bad condition for a long time, where in warm weather this hog poisons a lot of them, then some start to get well and poison those that this hog failed to.

Now what I say now I don't pretend is any more than what you can prove to yourself if you will investigate it. I am a farmer and what I write you would expect to be written as a farmer would write. Now how does it come that a hog will get so poisonous that he will poison his mate when the poison is cast out of him? I have told you how these hogs that accumulate these poisons are cared for; now I will tell you another thing that aids them. If you are a farmer you have heard and know since you were a boy that when an old sow gets run down in this shape that I have been telling you about, that it takes as much feed as she is worth to get her in condition again. Now I'll tell you what happens to that sow. When the sow is thriving and strong her outside hide is porous, called among us farmers as the scurf. It is a kind of a spongy arrangement; seems to be a kind of an after thought of nature to keep things from stopping up the pores in her true skin; from the outside acts like a guard; it's the outside protection of the pores in the main hide. Now when the sow is strong and properly cared for this outside hide keeps porous and spongy, and does the work nature intended it to do. Now remember this work is to keep outside harm away from the pores in her main hide. This outside hide gets its

life and strength from the system of the sow and pays for it in this way, and this is all it will do for her; this outside hide is a protection of life. Nature intended this outside hide to do another work, but not for her life. This is the safety valve: as long as it receives proper nourishment it will do the first work nature intended it to do faithfully. Now this outside hide will allow a certain amount of impurities to pass through it and escape into the air and no more at one time, that is they have to pass just as it receives its strength to allow them to pass; that is the price it demands; those are the only conditions in which they are allowed to pass. This is the other work nature intended to do, and that is the price nature intended it should demand; no way can these impurities come out through this outside hide from this old sow, till this price has been paid. It does no credit business; they can pass through the main skin by cupfuls or like going through cloth, but they can not pass this outside scurf, or hide, till it receives its price. Now nature intended this outside hide to hold those poisons from coming out when they got too poisonous, to protect the rest of the herd, which it will do till man off-sets it, which he does by protecting her, the sow, from wild beasts which would prey upon her while she was in this weak state. He lacks the wild beasts here in Iowa and he does not count on this lack of service to the rest of the herd. Now this outside hide becomes as a thin rubber as she becomes more impure. Now she cannot eat any thing unless it is easy to digest and carry off some impurities with it, and pass off fast and leave strength in her system. Well she would not get this if she was in a wild state, very quickly. You see nature did not intend her to be doctored; it intended her to be destroyed by other animals that would prey upon; that was nature's intentions, for to protect the health of the rest of the

herd. But man sets aside nature's plan. In regard to this old sow, his yards protect her and hold her among the rest. Still this outside hide does its work faithfully for months, to the rest; it has become, now, almost like rubber, and it holds back those poisons well. Now between it and the main skin there is a thin layer of impurities that has lain there for weeks, held by this rubber hide; not all over her body, for she keeps rub bing and loosens up this scale in places and allows some of the poison to escape; but all over her back and where she cannot rub this scale holds them firm. Well, this poison that she rubs loose does a little harm, gives the rest a cough by getting on their lungs, and hurts their digestion by coming into their stomach, and causes worms to be created in their stomach. But that is all the harm it does them yet, for her outside hide is faithfully protecting them from any large amount, while they sleep with her. Now this scale cannot be soaked up with water; water will run off of it as it will a rubber boot. Now man knows how he can aid this old sow to break this scale. He knows she must have strength; he knows of no medicine that will do it; he knows of feeds, though, that will give her strength; something as green corn, a tender, fresh, easy digested, strength giving food, that will begin slowly but surely and build up her strength and make her strong to force off this outside scale. Now this outside hide does not come to life as she gets her strength, but is forced up and off of her in flakes. Now you see it demands a guarantee that she has the ability to live before it will move and allow the others to be destroyed. But this feed is easy for her to get now; he, the man, gets it for her in plenty, so in time she shows her ability to live; nature has her price, the rubber like scale is forced up and begins breaking up as ice in a river, the poisons that have been held are freed. Now for a few days

it is death to those hogs that sleep with her. Now this poison begins to escape slowly at first; the rest of the herd don't know that death is in their camping place; they rove around in the day; they feel better in the day after they have been around awhile, but every morning they feel worse; they feel as if the gas had been blown out in the night, but not gas enough escaped to kill them. But these that are getting this poison have outside hide, too, and it is beginning to act for the protection of those that are not getting the poison; it closes down on them; it shuts off anything from passing from their pores in their main hide. It works as good on them as it did on the old sow; nothing can pass through this scale on this hog that is getting poisoned from that old sow. Take hold of the hog and see how smooth and like rubber that scale has become; see the pale purple underneath it. Now this hog does not have the chance this old sow had; he can't eat the good feed in the day time, and he is breathing poison into his stomach and lungs at night; also it is coming off the old sow faster; now he is doing the only way that is left to him to get rid of some that he gets, vomiting and scouring; his strength is gone and he dies. Look at him now, see the deep purple color he has. After the animal heat has left him take a stick and scratch away the scale and see if I have you the truth told. When this hog is dead he is also a danger to the others in two ways, if it is in the nest where they sleep The scale loses its power to protect the others; it loses its life and becomes as bad gum, so to speak, and will rub off exposing a layer of poisonous matter, which, if it be in the nest, the others may breathe off. Neither should well hogs be allowed to devour such a hog. for it is impure. The poisons on it are mostly on the outer side of it. I have seen them start to devour such a hog and go to vomiting before they hardly got its hide cut through.

I don't say it will kill the hog by eating the other, but it may be the cause of getting him in a condition that he will give the kill to the others.

I want to say this will not help some men from having the hog cholera among their hogs. You see a man wants to know what he is about, and that some men will not learn. The preventative is care and a proper understanding of how the hog should be cared for. It requires steady care and watchfulness, and that is something some men will not give. Medicine, they think, is easily given; they want to learn how to cure them by the bunch, and that end of this thing I have not tried to do. All I claim is they need not have this trouble by the bunch. I have written this from tests and I surely don't want to tell you an untruth.

I say next summer take a sow that has raised six or eight pigs on dry corn through hot weather; take her and put her in with some young hogs; feed her anything that is good, that will build her strength up, and if they don't fight her and not sleep with her they will get poisoned. Here is something to show you how easily you could get beat. I saw a man shut up twenty hogs in a pen to fatten, and it was about six weeks before they began to die. Some of them got to be fine hogs. I kept watch of these hogs; that is, I saw them when he put them up and twice afterwards. His yard was new; four of these hogs were about half fat, fair hogs; the other sixteen were in fair condition. It was hot and dry; had no large showers.

Now if you had not known something of this bunch of hogs, you would not be able to tell him where he made his mistake.

Well, when he put them in the pen, there were four barrows that were doing well and eating well; they were good hogs, only they needed to be fed a while longer. The others

were sixteen old brood sows, that had been kept up pretty well, but not quite high enough, so I made up my mind to keep track of them and I made a trip to see them after they had been in awhile. I found that the sixteen sows were doing greatly, very fine, but the four were doing nothing. Now he thought his hogs were doing very well. His mind was on these old sows; they were doing well, so he thought; everything was as it should be. About six weeks from the time he put them up, they began to die. Now when I saw them, the four were starting to thrive, and the sixteen were beginning to die. Now the sixteen were very nice hogs before they started to die, and the four were in fair shape, and you could see they were thriving. Now when he put them up, those sixteen had not been kept up well enough. But they were not very impure, but impure enough to poison the four that were eating heavy, knocking them off their feed and keeping them in a bad state of health for five or six weeks in hot weather, before they got to thriving again. But the poison was not strong enough to kill them; but now, you see, this poison grew, so to speak, by causing the other four to become very poisonous. Now when they started to thrive, they began to kill the sixteen, six weeks or more after they had been n this new yard. Now these four hogs were put in, good and pure hogs, and turned to be the death of some of the others, and you rolling corn and water to them. Now let me say, you are so used to saying swine plague and hog cholera that those names sound ghostly to you. You don't think you are able to handle a ghost, but try to kill him with medicine. Now I tell you there is only one thing you can drive a ghost away from you with, mix up a little reason and give it and it will take it and go away. Do not think there is anything sneaking from one farm to another to kill your hogs. If any-

thing comes, it will be a hog, and if he gives them anything. they will have to sleep with him. Now he will not give them a ghost, but poison. Now say hog poison to yourself, that don't seem so ghostly, you could handle that. Yes, you can handle that, you can cause it to be thrown into their lungs and stomach, or into the air; can cause it to be accummulated or not, just as you like. Now here is a man that did not try to raise many hogs, and what he did try to raise he said would always die. Here is the way he would try. He had a small pen, two or three brood sows. Well, they would raise him six or eight pigs apiece; the pigs would do well all summer; he would feed them on the outside of the pen. But the old sows would get dry, hard corn and the pigs would suck until the sows would become dry. Now the heat of the summer, with these pigs suckling them, would get them very weak and impure. Now step up to their pen, pull out some of their hair. See how easy it comes Don't you see it is dead? Look at the ends of it. Why don't they shed it? Says he, "I will soon have some new corn, I am going to feed it as soon as I can; I aint afraid of green corn giving them the cholera; I will make those old sows slick off, and you wont know them." So he begins to feed it. In a few days his pigs begin to cough. Now they sleep right up closely to those old sows, but it don't seem to help their cough. Now, in a while, they begin to get wormy, now their eyes begin to water, now they begin to vomit or scour, now they begin to wheeze and shiver, now they begin to die. Now he was right, you would not know those old sows. Bad disease among shoats, he says. That is another one of his ghost words. If he would say distemper, it would not make him feel so creepy and he would hunt for something wrong that he could find. Now which ones would he suppose would die,

the shoats or the old sows; or in other words, the ones that are casting off their impurities, or the ones that are taking them into their lungs and stomach? Now a hog that dies quick with this poison, his lungs you will not find affected much. He got too much of it in his stomach at once, killing him before his lungs got bad. He could not empty his stomach quick enough. But one that has lived awhile after he has got poisoned, you will easily see the effects of it in his lungs, dying from the destruction of both lungs and stomach.

Now if you think it is a good thing to purify your old sows among your young hogs in the fall, you will soon think different. You see they get their noses so close to the doors that you cast those impurities out of. And that is not all; they draw the stuff into them. And that is not all; they help your cast out draw it, the impurities, out of your old sows. Now, this poisonous matter. It is where it goes that makes your shoats so sick, first thing, right into their lungs and stomach. If it came out and struck their foot, it would not hurt them. Now the trouble with us has been that we have been foolish enough to think that Nature would create the hog to sleep in bunches, and fail to provide a protection for them. They might be entirely destroyed if that was the case. But Nature did give them protection, and it will try to the very last to protect them. You can put three hogs in a pen and cause them to have the cholera and Nature will save one, if you will remove them as they die. One must get well if you don't kill it with your medicine. That is like this, you see. You have two nice hogs in a pen. Now get an old sow that needs purifying, put her in with them. Now get some new corn or something like it and feed her. Now she will be ready in a few days to prove to Nature her ability to live. So she throws off this deadly stuff, the other to breathe it; will

say one dies. You get your bottle and go at the other one. You drag it to one side of the pen; it gets up to her the next night. But we will say you had a miracle in your bottle, and one starts to get well; you feed it when it gets strong; it will prove to Nature its ability to live and kill the other one. But it will live, unless you have another miracle, to get the other one well and kill him. But you could not kill him, Nature throws another protection around him. Now if your shoats were very wormy when they died, or when they were dying, it was because they had been getting some poisons, before they got the dose that started to kill them. That is like this; some of your old sows, the best ones of course, started to cast off their impurities, which was not strong enough to kill, but caused your shoats to cough and become wormy. Now when the poorest ones of the old hogs started, your pigs began dying. Or if your pigs had got poisoned too much, when some of them started, they would set the rest to dying.

Now if you will do as this. Keep your sows up while the pigs are suckling, give them good slops through hot weather, and when you wean your pigs, keep them away from the old hogs; and remember, it is when the impure hog goes to thriving that he injures the others. Don't put an old sow in with hogs you have been feeding some time, to cast off among them. Remember in hot weather it is hard on fat hogs. Keep them doing something or sell them. But as long as they are all doing well, you need not fear the cholera. Now you see a bunch of hogs that have the cholera; on the other side of a wire fence you see another bunch that is all right; one bunch is young hogs sleeping with young hogs; the other bunch is some young hogs sleeping with some old, impure brood sows that are casting off their impurities.

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